

REMARKS

The Applicant has filed the present Response in reply to the outstanding Official Action of February 6, 2004, and the Applicant believes the Response to be fully responsive to the Official Action for reasons set forth below in greater detail.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-4 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner contended that “a range of $1/2^k$ or more and less than $1/2^{k+1}$ ” is indefinite in Claims 1 and 3. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended accordingly with a minor editorial correction. In addition, Claims 2 and 4 have been cancelled herewith with any prejudice to their being reintroduced in this application or any later related application. Claims 1 and 3 have been further amended to include the subject matter of “wherein said scaling factor generating means generates said multiplication factor so that said divisor falls within a range of $5/3 \times 1/2^{k+1}$ or more and less than $7/4 \times 1/2^{k+1}$ ”. This limitation is similar to cancelled Claims 2 and 4. No new matter has been added.

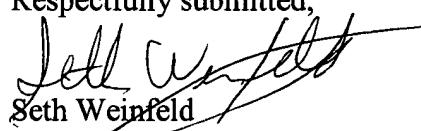
Furthermore, Claims 5-7 have been added herewith. The claims are directed to subject matter depicted in Figure 2 of the application. Specifically, the divider claimed in Claims 5-7 have a repetitive calculator for producing a quotient by generating high-order bits of 4-bit partial remainder represented in a twos complement notation by referring to a number of high-order bits, with an arbitrary length, of said partial remainder and by referring to high-order 4 bits of said partial remainder. The repetitive calculator

(means) comprises a redundant to non-redundant converter, a selector, a 4 bit binary adder, and a redundant binary adder.

The Admitted Prior Art reference fails to teach all of the claim limitations, as the repetitive calculator taught by the reference does not disclose all of the claimed structural limitations.

Lastly, the Applicant would like to note that the abstract has been amended herewith in compliance with MPEP § 608.01(b).

In conclusion, the Applicant believes that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance and henceforth respectfully solicits the Examiner to allow the application. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite the allowance of this application, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned, Applicant's attorney, at the following telephone number: (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,

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